

1 starving artist the chance to not only live their
2 dreams, but provide for their families and support
3 themselves, only when radio plays the real hits. I
4 produce the hip-hop awards, which is October 6, here
5 in this wonderful establishment.

6 And once again, I thank you, and I look
7 forward to you all reaching a decision. Thank you.

8 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mike Janecek.

11 MR. JANECEK: Hi. My name is Mike Janecek.

12 I'm a Chicagoan. Welcome to Chicago. I'm honored to
13 take part in your decision making process. I'd like
14 to commend you on the way you're doing it.

15 You're going to six varied regions, talking
16 to a lot of different people, listening to them for an
17 equal amount of time. And that's something that I
18 would like, as an American, to be able to do, and I
19 would like the children, as our future, to be able to
20 do. Wide ownership, wide, varied opinions.

21 The other thing is, by the grace of God I
22 got invited to a hip-hop show this weekend before
23 this. I didn't realize I was coming here to testify.

24 I didn't want to go, I didn't want the guns, the
25 gats, the gangsters, the thugs. I went to the show.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I was amazed. It totally enthralled me, it was
2 rhythmic, it was melodic, it was interesting, it was
3 funny, it was fascinating, it was talented.

4 I was one of the few White people in the
5 place, and yet no one, on stage or off, said the N
6 word, nobody called anybody the B word --

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. JANECEK: -- nobody said the H word. I
9 was totally enthralled and amazed.

10 The other thing is, Clear Channel doesn't
11 owe me anything. Neither do a lot of child molesters,
12 but I don't let them -- I don't give them unregulated
13 access to my family. Thank you.

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

15 (Applause and cheering.)

16 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Tracey McLellan.
17 Tracey McLellan?

18 (No response.)

19 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ralph Campagna -- or
20 Campagna.

21 MR. CAMPAGNA: Good evening. Good evening
22 to the Commissioners and to -- thank you -- and to
23 everyone here tonight.

24 I'm here with Off the Street Club Associate
25 Director, Arnett Morris, and we're here to speak on

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 behalf of the several thousand children of Chicago's
2 oldest Boys and Girls Club located on the city's west
3 side for 107 years.

4 Recently we completed the most ambitious
5 project in our history with the construction of a new
6 \$6-1/2 million activities center to compliment our
7 original building. Quite simply, ladies and
8 gentlemen, we could not have done it without the hands
9 on and direct help of WGN-TV and the WGN-TV staff.

10 MR. MORRIS: And for 20 years, the people
11 have WGN-TV have reached out to impact the lives of
12 our kids growing up on the West Garfield side where
13 drugs and gangs steal the future of too many of our
14 young city's kids.

15 MR. CAMPAGNA: During those 20 years, WGN-
16 TV's involvement has most certainly not not been the
17 casual publicity driven kind of support. Rather, from
18 the top down, the staff of WGN-TV has embraced our
19 cause and our kids in real and effective ways that are
20 just too numerous to talk about here in two minutes.

21 However, just one of the avenues of service
22 they have delivered to west side children is through
23 18 years of a spectacular WGN-TV fundraising event
24 called The Bozo Ball, which has raised \$5 million,
25 empowering the dreams of people in need, and turning

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 those dreams into a better life.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, at Off the Street
3 Club on Chicago's west side, WGN-TV is held in
4 reverence because of the tireless, dedicated service
5 they have provided, and continue to provide to our
6 very needy, but very wonderful kids.

7 MR. MORRIS: For two decades, WGN-TV has
8 brought help for today and hope for tomorrow to our
9 community. We say a heartfelt thank you and a God
10 bless to the venerable station and their compassionate
11 and caring people. Thank you.

12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Jayne Hayden.

15 MS. HAYDEN: Hi. My name is Jayne Hayden,
16 and I'm the Director of Operations for WGN-TV.

17 For the past 23 years I've been a volunteer
18 mentor, beginning at the Fourth Pres. Church on
19 Michigan Avenue, where I met a nine year old young man
20 named Darius. When Darius graduated from Lincoln Park
21 High School, I faced the dilemma of taking on another
22 student, or maybe, with the help of WGN management,
23 start a program of my own with my co-workers.

24 I approached the nearby Daniel Cotter Boys
25 and Girls Club and presented the idea to the Board of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Directors. The staff and the Board members embraced
2 the idea, and I recruited nine WGN employees to join
3 me every Tuesday at the Club. Each of us was assigned
4 a student to work with one on one for the school year,
5 with the hope of building a bond and trusting
6 relationship with one student and one adult.

7 That was 14 years ago. Today we have had
8 as many as 35 students ranging from third grade
9 through college, 35 adults from WGN and their friends
10 and family. Within the past four years, we have --
11 outgrew the Club, and we have hosted the program at
12 the WGN studios. WGN supports the program by grant
13 money for both the bus service and special cultural
14 outings around the city.

15 Along with the mentoring program we have
16 built a special relationship with the Boys and Girls
17 Club's general office. We have had several of our
18 anchor personalities speak at fundraisers, and last
19 year we had an overwhelming response to the WGN
20 Morning News toy drive in support of the Clubs around
21 the Chicago area.

22 The best part of all of this is the
23 connection that students are making with their
24 mentors, giving them access to the world outside their
25 neighborhood, reminding them every week how important

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 school is, how important they are, and how if they
2 work hard, we will not let them down.

3 Certainly, there have been some
4 disappointments. But more importantly, I could go on
5 with stories of students participating in mentors'
6 wedding, becoming part of their families, and share
7 the many letters from past students that have written
8 from college and the service, and how much the program
9 meant to them.

10 Between the passion of our WGN employees
11 and the encouragement of our WGN management, we have
12 been able to continue a program within our community,
13 albeit small, it is consistent and effective in the
14 eyes of those who participate. Thank you.

15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Juan Carlos Fanjul.

18 MR. FANJUL: Greetings, Commissioners. My
19 name is Juan Carlos Fanjul, and I'm a reporter for
20 WGN-TV News. I've covered the news in Chicago for
21 over five years now. As a general assignment reporter
22 I cover anything that happens in the metropolitan area
23 and around the state, even around the country.

24 The stories are numerous. One ongoing
25 series of stories stands out in my mind because of its

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 value to the viewers we serve, and the difference it
2 makes in the community. To that end, we turned crime
3 coverage into news that can make the city safer.

4 In July of last year, I started a dialogue
5 with the U.S. Marshal's Great Lakes Task Force. Their
6 mission is to apprehend and arrest fugitives, but they
7 needed some help. With the power of television, we
8 both knew we were able to put mug shots and
9 descriptions of suspects on the run on television,
10 tips would lead to their arrest.

11 In August of 2006 we started an ongoing
12 series of reports called Fugitive Hunters. It airs on
13 the station's most watched newscast, WGN News at 9:00.

14 Our hour long format allows me to spend sometimes up
15 to four minutes on at least a couple of fugitives.

16 We interview the marshals about the
17 suspects, we reach out to the family members of the
18 victims of crimes, and we prominently display the
19 suspects mug shot with their description. At the end
20 of the segment we flash a phone number on the screen,
21 a number people can call in anonymously with any tips
22 they have that may lead the marshals to the bad guys.

23 Well, I'm happy to report in just a year's
24 time half a dozen suspects have been caught, from
25 alleged murders, like 26-year-old Bruce Urban, who's

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 accused of shooting to death his own girlfriend, to
2 convicted sexual predators like 40-year-old Kevin
3 Thomas, who was found guilty of sexually abusing his
4 seven-year-old step-daughter multiple times.

5 According to the marshals, none of these
6 suspects wanted to face the law, but with our reports
7 they were forced to. I'm no John Walsh, but with
8 every fugitive that is caught, WGN-TV realizes the
9 community is just a little bit safer and victims
10 finally have some sense of justice. Thank you.

11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ken Reener.

14 MR. REINER: Good evening, Chairman and
15 Commissioners. Ken Reiner, Group Program Director for
16 WGN Television and Tribune Broadcasting. I'm
17 responsible for all the local program initiatives that
18 WGN Television has out there. Tonight I'd like to
19 share some of these initiatives, to bring awareness of
20 our current and storied history serving Chicagoland
21 community.

22 WGN-TV's news coverage is unprecedented,
23 offering 32 hours of weekly news to viewers. More
24 hours than ever before. The station remains committed
25 to journalistic excellence, presenting local, regional

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 and national news in an objective and professional
2 manner.

3 WGN News provides important political
4 coverage throughout the year, and especially during
5 the months leading to an election. WGN-TV and the
6 *Chicago Tribune* conduct political polling during the
7 election season to help identify issues and provide in
8 depth coverage of events and legislation from
9 Washington, D.C. and the state capital in Springfield.

10 Our service to the community continues
11 weekly with two half-hour community affairs series
12 that air bi-weekly. People to People covers local and
13 regional issues and events predominantly affecting the
14 African-American community. Recent guests include the
15 Reverend and Mrs. Jesse Jackson, Percy L. Julian, Sr.,
16 and Cheryl Jackson, the President and CEO of the
17 Chicago Urban League.

18 Adelante Chicago focuses on issues and
19 events of interest to our Hispanic audience. Recent
20 guests include Linda Chavez Thomas, the President of
21 the AFL-CIO; Carlos Manuel Salas Salona, and Ida
22 Giacello, who is the Puerto Rican healthcare crusader.

23 The entrepreneurial spirit is captured in
24 a *Black Enterprise* report, "This weekly half hour
25 series has aired on WGN-TV since 1985 providing

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 minority businesses coverage, career guidance, and
2 entrepreneurial profiles leading up to African-
3 American executives."

4 One of our most celebrated events is the
5 Bud Billiken Parade and Picnic presented by Chicago
6 Defender charities. As a proud sponsor and partner,
7 WGN has broadcast this live event for 30 years. This
8 parade is the largest African-American parade in the
9 country, the largest in Chicago, celebrating our
10 youth, diversity, and the importance of education.

11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

12 MR. REINER: WGN-TV is truly grateful for
13 the long term relationships, and the opportunity to
14 serve the Chicagoland community in its --

15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

16 MR. REINER: -- many efforts. We are
17 honored to be known as Chicago's very own. Thank you.

18 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: At this point in our
21 program, I wanted to ask the panelists from the second
22 panel to come forward. We're going to pause for just
23 one moment as we get them seated, and we will begin
24 with our second panel session. So we will have a few
25 moment break.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 PARTICIPANT: What number are we on?

2 MODERATOR SIGALOS: We just completed
3 number 34.

4 (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

5 MODERATOR SIGALOS: If everyone would
6 please be seated, we'd like to start with the second
7 panel. As we move to our second panel discussion, I'd
8 like to once again review the ground rules.

9 Panelist, we've been running a bit behind
10 schedule, so please, I urge you to limit your comments
11 to five minutes. I will be strictly enforcing this
12 time limit to leave as much time as possible for the
13 public comment period.

14 Members of the audience, once again, we
15 appreciate you listening respectfully to the
16 panelists, even if you disagree with the views that
17 they express. I know that the issues we're discussing
18 today arouse a lot of passion. But for this hearing
19 to run smoothly and be successful, we need to maintain
20 basic decorum and avoid unnecessary interruptions.

21 If everyone would please be seated, we are
22 ready to begin.

23 Participating in this panel are Linda Sue
24 Brown, TV News producer, Writer's Guild America East.
25 The Reverend Delman L. Coates, Ph.D., Pastor of the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Mt. Ennon Baptist Church in Clinton, Maryland.
2 Christine Laudadio Devine, Juris Doctor Candidate,
3 Class of 2008, Northwestern University School of Law.
4 Cliff Kelley, Radio Show Host, WVON-AM, Chicago,
5 Illinois.

6 (Applause.)

7 MODERATOR SIGALOS: John Lavine, Dean,
8 Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism. Joyce
9 McCullough, Publisher, NewsTribune, LaSalle, Illinois,
10 and General Manager, WLPO-AM, WAJK-FM, LaSalle,
11 Illinois and WKOT-FM, Marseilles, Illinois.

12 Corky Siegel, Chicago Blues Musician. Jim
13 Speta, Professor, Northwestern School -- University
14 School of Law. Patric Verrone, president, Writers
15 Guild America West. And Ann Woelk, Director of
16 Broadcasting for the AFTRA Chicago Local.

17 Ms. Brown?

18 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Chairman Martin, and
19 Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate.
20 And a very warm welcome to everyone here in Chicago.

21 My name is Sue Brown. I'm a television
22 news writer and producer here in Chicago, and member
23 of the Writers Guild America East, and a Union shop
24 steward at WBBM Channel 2. I'm here to speak on
25 behalf of news writers and producers and discuss three

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 major concerns, news quality, localism, and the lack
2 of diverse voices.

3 First, thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your
4 interest in the current negotiations between the
5 Writers Guild and CBS, and the Writers Guild and ABC.

6 As you know, Mr. Chairman, we have been without
7 contracts at CBS and ABC for over two years and have
8 been negotiating even longer. For my colleagues and
9 me, this means we are without protection and haven't
10 had a raise since April of 2004.

11 Last March, at your request, we prepared a
12 briefing book outlining CBS's demands, and we'd like
13 to give you an extra copy here today, as well as
14 others.

15 The stake in our negotiations are far
16 higher than our wages. At stake is the quality and
17 diversity of the news we are able to deliver to the
18 public. In negotiations, both CBS and ABC have made
19 proposals designed to allow them to sidestep their
20 public interest obligations and erode the quality of
21 news coverage, particularly at the local levels of
22 news.

23 For years news writers and producers have
24 protested changes that harm the quality of the news by
25 cutting resources and dumbing down content. As one of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 my colleagues has put it, "It's hard to believe that a
2 company as large as CBS, making millions upon millions
3 of dollars, continues to squeeze the little guy." And
4 we, the little guys, are the ones who make sure the
5 public is getting the high quality of news.

6 Despite our objections, the cuts continue
7 and I believe the impact on the public is significant.

8 In the past years, I have seen work loads doubled,
9 researchers eliminated, and editors laid off. The
10 work is added to the already overloaded news writers.

11 We are so understaffed, that while I'm here, our news
12 room is short a news writer and my colleagues are
13 covering my load of work.

14 The first casualty of staffing cuts is
15 local news, which requires more hours of research and
16 reporting. With fewer people producing more stories,
17 we are forced to fill the newscasts with more stories
18 from news wires instead of independently researched
19 local pieces. At our station, management has even
20 eliminated a full hour of local news, from 4:00 to
21 5:00, replacing it with a syndicated talk show.

22 As another example, when elected officials
23 speak to the public, we in the news room struggle to
24 find time to review the entire speech to find the most
25 pertinent interesting clip to show on air. Instead,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 we scan through it the best we can in a very short
2 time, hoping to find something that we can use.

3 Management justified staffing cuts in our
4 news room by promising to purchase tapes of news
5 worthy events from freelance reporters. We call them
6 stringers. But recently our managers have prohibited
7 us from purchasing more stringer tapes because of the
8 cost, and now the stringers have refused to sell us
9 their tapes.

10 For example, we recently couldn't properly
11 cover a drunk driving story, or story of a major
12 traffic accident in Schaumburg, Illinois because
13 stringers denied us their work. Without stringer
14 tape, yet another source of local news is cut from the
15 public.

16 None of this is secret. News quality is
17 declining and our contract negotiations have a serious
18 impact on news quality. CBS is demanding the
19 unlimited right to merge or combine our news rooms.
20 CBS calls it co-location. Congressman Anthony Weiner
21 calls it double dipping, and we absolutely agree.

22 CBS Corporation owns multiple facilities
23 within several markets such as New York at 1010 WINS,
24 and WCBS-AM 80, and in Lost Angeles at KNX and KFWB
25 Radio. CBS wants to be able to merge those news

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 rooms.

2 As Congressman Weiner states in his letter
3 to Chairman Martin last week, "Using the same
4 reporters and writers to produce local" -- excuse
5 me -- "identical news programs for different stations
6 does nothing for competition or view point diversity.

7 Double dipping stories may help for the bottom line,
8 but democratic values, the foundation of our localized
9 system of broadcasting, will suffer."

10 Congress Weiner believes news room
11 consolidation is important enough to warrant its own
12 area of investigation, and ask that the issue be put
13 up for public notice. We join in that request.

14 Diversity is also an issue in our news
15 room. Here in Chicago we have a population of over
16 2.8 million people from across the globe. That
17 includes African-Americans, Latinos, Asians of all
18 varieties, Poles, Swedes, Lithuanians, and many, many
19 more. Our languages, interests, occupations and
20 political views are equally as diverse.

21 But the people producing our local news
22 coverage do not reflect that amazing diversity. In
23 our news room, staffed by over 20 news writers and
24 producers, I am the only Black American, and have
25 only one other colleague of color. Among our --

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

2 MS. BROWN: -- managers, again, there's
3 only one --

4 MODERATOR SIGALOS: If you could just
5 conclude your remarks --

6 MS. BROWN: Okay.

7 MODERATOR SIGALOS: -- at this point?

8 MS. BROWN: Sorry. In conclusion, this
9 needs to be changed, and we at the staff are committed
10 to being a part of that change, and we encourage
11 diversity and we courage you. And we thank you very
12 much for listening.

13 (Applause.)

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Ms. Brown.

15 Reverend Coates.

16 REVEREND COATES: Thank you, Chairman
17 Martin, and to the rest of the Commissioners, for this
18 invitation to come today to address the problem of
19 consolidation and media ownership.

20 I'm here this evening as the organizer of
21 the Enough is Enough campaign, which formerly began
22 last Saturday with the first of its weekly rallies to
23 protest the broadcasting and sponsorship of negative,
24 demeaning, and derogatory images and messages of Black
25 men and Black women in the entertainment industry.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 (Applause.)

2 REVEREND COATES: We began our protest --
3 we began last Saturday with our weekly rallies outside
4 of the home of the CEO of Black Entertainment
5 Television. We'll be there again this Saturday.
6 There are buses coming down from New York and Atlanta.

7 And the reason people are going to such --
8 to what, for many people, seem extreme measures is
9 because the community has become fed up. They're sick
10 and tired with the celebration, the commercialization
11 of images that demean Black women, and images that
12 portray Black men as gangsters, pimps, players, and
13 foes.

14 (Applause.)

15 REVEREND COATES: I could go on. I could
16 go on. People can find out about our campaign by
17 going to www.enoughisenoughcampaign.com. I could say
18 more, but how do we remedy this? I'm not an expert on
19 this issue, but there are just a few points from my
20 campaign that I want to share with the Commission.

21 First, the FCC must enforce its mandate to
22 regulate indecency on the public airwaves between 6:00
23 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. To my knowledge, there has not
24 been one fine for indecency on urban radio in the
25 history of hip-hop. And I think that's a travesty,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 because anyone driving through any urban -- any city
2 in America today, and turns on urban radio can find
3 some of the most demeaning and derogatory messages
4 about Black people, Black men and women, that would
5 not be tolerated for some other special interest
6 groups.

7 And I'm also not persuaded by the view that
8 there's not enough money, sufficient money, to
9 regulate this stuff. I, as a pastor, was investigated
10 by the IRS for seven months for a sermon I preached
11 last November. Now if the government can investigate
12 a sermon that I preached, with all of the churches and
13 preachers --

14 (Applause.)

15 REVEREND COATES: -- that are preaching
16 around the country, then the government can
17 investigate what's going on over the public airwaves.

18 (Applause.)

19 REVEREND COATES: I like the suggestion
20 that was made in the earlier panel about setting up
21 community governing boards, or whatever, to address
22 this issue of how to regulate what's happening.

23 Secondly, there must be a commitment to
24 diversity. Much has been said about that earlier.
25 But I do want to say that a commitment to diversity,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 while it is important, is insufficient in and of
2 itself. We do not just need people of color, we need
3 people of conscience. And the --

4 (Applause and cheering.)

5 REVEREND COATES: -- the concerns have to
6 extend beyond skin color and must focus on the content
7 of the programming. My time is running here. So then
8 how does the community get the content that we need,
9 deserve, and are demanding? Because regulation is
10 only a part of the problem. And this, I believe, is
11 key, an important piece of the puzzle. The Chairman
12 mentioned it in his opening remarks, and much hasn't
13 been said about it.

14 I believe that the Commission can do a lot
15 -- play a large role in preventing the American people
16 from paying for content that they don't desire.
17 Consumers should not be forced to pay for cable
18 channels that contain content and demeaning messages
19 that are not affirming to their community. Right now,
20 the American people has to pay for Black Entertainment
21 Television. They have to pay for all of these
22 networks that they don't desire.

23 This does not happen in any other
24 commercial activity. And I'm of the view that à la
25 carte cable, whether it's a themed, a tiered themed

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 approach, would not do away with minority ownership.
2 What it may do is it may do away with the minority
3 ownership, but I think what it would do is it would
4 expand opportunities for other creative minority
5 entrepreneurs who are interested in developing talent
6 that would be more accountable to the people. We need
7 à la carte cable, and I hope the people will learn
8 more about it --

9 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

10 REVEREND COATES: -- so that we can change
11 this situation. Thank you.

12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Reverend
13 Coates.

14 (Applause and cheering.)

15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ms. Devine.

16 (Pause.)

17 MS. DEVINE: My name is Christine Devine,
18 and I'm a third year law student at Northwestern
19 University School of Law. And I have a confession to
20 make. I don't read the newspaper, I don't watch local
21 TV news, and I never listen to the radio. I get all
22 of my information online.

23 Daily, that means I skim the headlines, I
24 pick what I want to read, I read it in depth if I find
25 it important. But more likely I get my news because a

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 friend has pointed me to an interesting story, or a
2 blog I trust has pointed me to an interesting story
3 and provided good commentary. I simply don't have the
4 time to do anything else. The internet makes it easy
5 for me to get the information I want, the nuance I
6 want in the information I want, and more than one view
7 point.

8 I do check the local news, I read the
9 *Chicago Tribune* online, I skim the *Sun Times*, but I'm
10 more interested in finding out about what I want to
11 find out about. I spend time on specialized websites,
12 on blogs, I spend time reading news boards, bulletin
13 boards, I occasionally listen to a podcast.

14 I am not unusual. Most of my peers and
15 colleagues get most of their news from the internet.
16 We are all busy, we all have ready access to computers
17 and the internet. Anyone with a cell phone can get
18 online nowadays. It's not expensive, it's easy to do,
19 and it means that you have a choice in what you want
20 to read. I don't drive, so I don't even have a radio
21 to listen to during my commute.

22 I'll admit that I'm an early adopter. I'm
23 a technology junkie. So if I were speaking to you 10
24 years ago, I would say that you should discount what I
25 was saying. But I adopted these habits 10 years ago.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 I've been reading my news online exclusively for the
2 last decade, and it's becoming more and more
3 prevalent.

4 While I believe in the importance of the
5 free airwaves, I also believe in the importance of
6 alternative means of getting one's news. And I'm
7 living proof that one can be an informed and active
8 member of the community without necessarily getting
9 one's news from the public airwaves. Thank you.

10 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Kelley.

13 MR. KELLEY: Thank you very much. I
14 appreciate it. I want to thank the FCC for being
15 here, and particularly -- I met the Chairman earlier,
16 who was over at WVON, as was Commissioner Taylor Tate.
17 We were pleased to see both of you there. And also
18 this morning on *The Santita Jackson Show*,
19 Commissioners Copps and Adelstein were on the show,
20 which I listened to and you folks were great. And we
21 appreciate that. They were wonderful on the show.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. KELLEY: In fact, if you want to really
24 know what those two Commissioners want, there is an
25 excellent letter to the editor in today's *Sun Times*,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 entitled Are Chicago's Media Outlets Serving You, and
2 that's from Commissioners Capps and Adelstein. And my
3 response would be, no, that is not the case.

4 In fact, when the Chairman walked in, I
5 said, yes, I recognize you because your picture was in
6 the paper this morning. So --

7 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: It was your letter but my
8 picture.

9 MR. KELLEY: Yes, that's right. But I have
10 been so concerned about the press, and I must say I'm
11 not a professional journalist. I have also, of
12 course, been extremely interested having been an
13 elected official at one time. In addition, I'm a
14 Deputy Chairman of the Illinois Chapter of the
15 American Civil Liberties Union, and I'm also on the
16 Editorial Board of the paper that was mentioned
17 earlier, the *Chicago Defender*.

18 So, obviously, I understand how important
19 the media is. And I get very upset over what we don't
20 get, based on what is going on at this point. When we
21 talk about the First Amendment, and I know most of
22 you, if not all of you, are lawyers. But you don't
23 have to be to understand. You can be a historian and
24 understand what the First Amendment was all about.

25 Certainly it's something that we need. And

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the framers, of course, said that in order to have a
2 representative democracy, you must have presumably an
3 enlightened electorate. They also knew that you won't
4 get that from the government, obviously, if they are
5 trying to cover something, they're not going to
6 divulge that information.

7 So the press is the only location
8 obviously, lady and gentlemen, that has a
9 constitutional guarantee of existence. I think that
10 we're getting to the point, under what is going on
11 now, that is really a threat to what the media is
12 supposed to do.

13 One of the things -- and I've said this on
14 a radio show and -- a TV show actually, and some
15 people were trying to find out the source. I haven't
16 been able to find it either. But in the second
17 week -- second year rather of this so-called war that
18 we're in, the American forces closed down -- or said
19 to the Unit Commander in Mosul, Iraq, close the radio
20 station. The Lieutenant Colonel was a female, refused
21 to do that. She said, That's not what we're about.
22 We're not supposed to be closing radio stations. Her
23 Commander went and closed it himself, took her out,
24 and we've been trying to find out where she went.

25 But I thought that was very interesting

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701